

SHADOW CABINET? — The Likud Knesset faction held its weekly meeting in the Cabinet room yesterday, since its regular conference room was being used by Knesset election organizers.

(Rahamin Tsuran)

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Cardo' isn't Roman Page 3

Price: IL2.75 (Including VAT)

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New wage hikes will have less effect on economy than feared

By GIDYON ESHET, Post Economic Reporter

As of yesterday, salary increments of IL75-850 per month had been granted to some 170,000 civil servants and other public-sector employees. About 77,000 more are to get similar raises within days. These include the teachers, lawyers, journalists, researchers and policemen in the public service. With fringe benefits, the total gross cost to the Government will amount to IL2 b. during fiscal 1977.

Of the gross expenditure of IL2 b., however, some IL100 m. will return to the government coffers through income tax deductions. This is based on an official estimate of an average marginal tax rate of 35 per cent. Another IL200 m. and possibly more, will go toward various institutional, contractual and voluntary savings. This leaves about IL1.6 b. as additional disposable income for private consumption.

According to existing estimates of the import component in private consumption, it may be expected, according to official sources, that IL300 m. at most will be spent directly and indirectly (through the imported raw materials in domestic products) on imports. This is equivalent to \$30m. at most, since the effective exchange rate for imported consumer goods is higher than IL20 per dollar.

The price rise forecast by the Treasury as a result of the Government's deficit financing, as included in the 1977 budget, was about 25 per cent. The price rise that is likely to result from the wage increases may come to another 2 per cent, at most.

Some of the government economists now engaged in evaluating the results of the wage increases consider this an exaggerated estimate. The reason is that this 2 per cent forecast assumes that the entire gross addition to the Government's wage bill of IL2 b. will have to come from printing additional money. It was, however, pointed out that the Government had already allocated IL1.6 b. for this purpose.

If the budget reserve for wage increases is taken into account, prices may be pushed up by about 1 per cent. Unless some drastic changes occur in other areas, there are therefore no grounds for expecting the inflation rate to exceed the original projected levels.

Defence officials believe that Israeli requirements are closer to 125 F-16's than the 250 Israel wants, and that co-production of the smaller number would not be economical for Israel or the United States. The main reason for the co-production request is to gain an infusion of U.S. technology for Israel's aircraft industry, U.S. officials believe.

"The Administration expects to refuse F-16 co-production when Prime Minister Yitzhak Rabin visits the U.S. in March."

The magazine, respected here for its military affairs coverage, also reports that "Israel is still seeking to reverse the U.S. position denying the sale of Israel Aircraft Industries' Kfir fighter to Ecuador."

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Matzot price to rise by 23 per cent

By JOSHUA BRILLIANT, Jerusalem Post Political Reporter

TEL AVIV. — Tourism Minister Moshe Kol will probably not run in the coming Knesset elections, well-placed sources here yesterday told the Jerusalem Post. But the minister said he has not made up his mind yet.

Some sources suspected Kol was repeating a move he made four years ago: announcing a decision to step down in order to prompt supporters to ask him to stay.

Whether or not he runs for the Knesset, however, Kol will continue to chair the party for the next four years. He was overwhelmingly re-elected by the party convention late last night.

The party leadership was strongly criticized at yesterday's session of the KIP convention; and secretary-general Yitzhak Barkai said that, judging from the mood at the convention, "there will be changes in the list of candidates for the Knesset."

Haim Teichman, a Jewish Agency official, said: "New people should

Whom to phone for a quick 'shalom'

By MARTHA MEISELS, Jerusalem Post Consumer Affairs Reporter

with a rating of 11 or 12 points, were the following: In Jerusalem, Magen David Adom; in Tel Aviv area, Egged, Kol-Bo Kravitz Holon, and Hamastrat Latsarshan, and in Haifa area, Magen David Adom, the Technion, and the Kiryat Bialik municipal council.

In the "unsatisfactory" category, with six-plus points or less, were the Tel Aviv offices of the Ministry of Health ("six"), and the Electric Corporation in Tel Aviv and Tel Hashomer Hospital ("six plus" each).

Thruva and the Ministry of Educa-

tion offices got a "five" or "five plus."

Egged in Jerusalem was rated "satisfactory" with nine points, while the capital's Shaare Zedek Hospital eked by with a satisfactory rating of seven.

The telephone courtesy campaign will extend for several more weeks, with different institutions and businesses on the target list each week.

In a spot check by this reporter in Tel Aviv, the headquarters of the Israel Consumer's Council itself answered the phone quickly, with a cheerful "Hamotetz L'Tzarchanut, shalom." Its phone numbers are 02-427026 and 02-427027.

Chairman Mao Tse-tung's death last September, Peking has shown no apparent interest in a rapprochement with Moscow and has continued its anti-Soviet propaganda.

Neither side released details of the talks, which have dragged on since the 1969 armed clashes on the Sino-Soviet frontier. The Chinese maintain that Kiyechev did not make any real proposals.

There was no indication when the envoy would return to reopen substantive negotiations. Periodic lower-level meetings are expected to continue between Chinese officials and Moscow's resident negotiating team headed by Vasily Lobanov.

"Official business" is being cited as the reason for Kiyechev's recall. Moscow's Ambassador here, Vasily Tolstikov, said the envoy planned to accompany Soviet President Nikolai Podgorny on a tour of Africa next month. (Reuters)

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But the envoy, Deputy Foreign Minister Leonid Kiyechev, said that although his tour was over the talks would continue. Questioned at Peking airport on the progress of the negotiations, he replied: "All negotiations achieve something."

Kiyechev was in an apparently jovial mood, shaking hands with his Chinese counterpart, Yu Chan, and wishing him good luck and good health. His arrival here last November was seen as part of a wider Soviet scheme to start a fresh dialogue with the new Chinese administration of Chairman Hua Guofeng.

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L&M has the taste for everyone in Box 100 mm and Menthol

THE WEATHER

Forecast: Partly cloudy with further drop in temperatures.

| Yesterday's Humidity | Today's Min-Max | Max |
|----------------------|-----------------|-----|
| Jerusalem 53 | 7-15 | 14 |
| Golan 58 | 8-15 | 12 |
| Nahariya 63 | 8-20 | 18 |
| Safed 68 | 9-15 | 11 |
| Batza Fort 62 | 14-19 | 17 |
| Tiberias 46 | 10-24 | 21 |
| Nazareth 53 | — | 15 |
| Afula 54 | 8-20 | 18 |
| Shomron 56 | 9-16 | 14 |
| Tel Aviv 73 | 11-19 | 18 |
| B-C Airport 62 | — | 15 |
| Jericho 53 | 9-27 | 23 |
| Gaza 51 | 10-19 | 18 |
| Beerseba 55 | 6-21 | 19 |
| Eilat 21 | 13-29 | 27 |
| Tiran Straits 15 | 18-22 | 26 |

SOCIAL & PERSONAL

Nitzav-Mishne Binyamin Barlay, deputy commander of the Tel Aviv District Police, was promoted yesterday to the rank of **Tat-Nitzav**. Nitzav-Mishne Binyamin Barlay, head of the Patrol Division at national headquarters, was promoted to Tat-Nitzav and appointed Deputy Commander of the Operations Department.

David Slav, reporter for "Davar" and Jerusalem Post stringer in the north, was yesterday honored at a gathering at Kibbutz Ayelet Hashahar on his retirement after 40 years of service.

ARRIVALS

Donald M. Robinson, vice-president of the American Jewish Joint Distribution Committee and **Ralph I. Goldman**, executive vice-president of the American Jewish Joint Distribution Committee from the U.S.

Philip Zimman, chairman of the Israel Education Fund, United Jewish Appeal, for the Jewish Agency Board of Governors meeting (by Air France).

Lecturers at Hebrew U. hold one-day strike

Post Education Reporter
The 1,300 non-tenured members of the Hebrew University's Association of Lecturers, Instructors and Assistants did not teach their classes yesterday and are threatening to stage a general strike. "It has nothing to do with salary," the association chairman, Dr. Shimon Shetreet, a law lecturer, emphatically repeated to The Jerusalem Post when he said last week in announcing yesterday's strike.

The junior faculty are making four main demands of the university. First, they want fairer representation in the university's academic institutions, noting, for example, that while their 1,300 members have only 10 representatives on the university's Senate, the 700 senior faculty have 300.

Secondly, the junior faculty complain that they are bearing an unfair share of the university's post-Tom Kipper War economy measures. They note that the contracts of 114 assistants, 143 instructors, and 51 lecturers were not renewed by the Hebrew University in 1975 and 1976.

Third, they demand streamlining and rationalization of the "Kafkaesque" advancement procedures.

Fourth, they demand improved severance conditions for junior, non-tenured faculty whose contracts are not renewed for reasons that have nothing to do with their academic qualifications and performance.

"Ossie" Biderman, at 52

TEL AVIV. — The principal of the Anei Yitzhak youth village, **Ossie** (Ossie) Biderman, died yesterday. He was 52.

Biderman, a member of nearby Kibbutz Kfar Glikson, was active in the Hungarian underground during the Holocaust, one of the organizers of illegal immigration to Eretz Yisrael and a leading figure in Youth Aliya.

The funeral cortege will leave from the kibbutz at 2 p.m. today.

The Jerusalem Foundation

extends deepest sympathy to a devoted friend of Jerusalem, Mr. William S. Paley, on the passing of his mother,

Goldie Drell Paley

With deep sorrow we announce the death, after a long illness, of our beloved

EDITH SACHS

Tamar Sachs, Marion and Myer Bloom Shulka, Sherona, Lani, Duda and Roni

The funeral will take place at 1 p.m., today, Tuesday, March 1, 1977, at Kiryat Tivon Cemetery.

Please refrain from condolence visits.

ISSY GALE-EDD

we extend heartfelt sympathy and condolence to the family

May the Almighty comfort you and in the strengthening of Israel and in encouraging ally and helping him may you find your solace.

Hitchcock Old Britania — British Settlers Association

In memory of

SIOMA GINAI

One year after his untimely death.

Marionne Belser Hodi Bebal/Nusbaum

Industry workers protest wage increases in services

TEL AVIV. — Spokesmen for a quarter of a million industrial workers yesterday voiced their resentment at the "preferential treatment" meted out to the 140,000 public sector workers on the Uniform Grade Scale, who have just successfully concluded a new wage agreement. They expressed fears that the all-round pay hikes might touch off a galloping inflation of which the industrial workers would be the first victims.

Yitzhak Giliadi, secretary of the Metal Workers Union, said that the wage hikes constituted a reversal of earlier promises made by the Government and the Histadrut to give priority in wage settlements to "the productive sector."

Representatives of the electronics, food, textile, metal and other industrial sectors met here yesterday to coordinate their reactions to the civil service wage agreement and to formulate a concerted course of action for their own members.

Meanwhile, the public sector workers, engineers and academicians who have recently won pay raises may soon be joined by some 50,000 teachers who yesterday reopened their contract negotiations in an effort to bring their salaries in line with the other groups.

After negotiations a few months ago, teachers received increases of

By **ZETEV SCHUL**
Jerusalem Post Reporter

IL100 to IL300 a month, depending on grade and seniority. However, they had not signed a final agreement, preferring to wait and see what other academic professionals (particularly the engineers to whom teachers' pay is linked) would get. Last week, when the new contracts were signed with the engineers and academicians, the teachers threatened to declare a labour dispute if new negotiations were not started within a week.

The negotiations with the white-collar workers included an all-round representation for the employers, (from municipalities to national industry as well as the General Clerks Union).

The new wage scale will gross the clerks up to **IL550** more for the top two grades (20/21) but only very few will reap real benefits. For the overwhelming majority the wage hikes will be minimal. **Gideon Lev**, of the Union of Local Authorities, pointed out that some 70 per cent of the employees in the Uniform Grade Scale were in the 4-4 grades, entitling them to only **IL75** gross per month. This is no more than about 3 per cent.

In comparison to the hospital doctors, who almost doubled their salaries and stand to receive as

much as **IL25,000** in back pay in three monthly instalments, the clerks will be receiving only very modest sums although they too will be paid retroactively to April 1976.

The doctors, who cancelled their strike originally scheduled for Sunday, are generally "blamed" for having made the initial breakthrough with their wage demands — followed by the engineers, academic workers, civil servants and clerks. Next on the list appear to be the teachers who were scheduled to meet with their employers in the Histadrut building here yesterday evening for yet another night session.

Now comes the turn of the quarter-million industrial workers.

However, the lot of the industrial workers is a very mixed one, and there are many factories and large plants, it was learned, who are paying their workers well in excess of the collective wage agreement rates.

On the other hand, workers in economically unstable enterprises are reluctant to press for high wages, fearing that they might lose their jobs by making excessive demands or halting production by strikes.

In Haifa, more labour disputes are in the offing. Yesterday the Technion's administrative staff committee asked the Labour Council to sanction a work dispute against the management, for alleged "systematic violations" of the 1,700 staff members' labour contract.

The Marine Officers Union threatened to strike the four ships of the Kibbutz Meuhad owned Tarabiah company, if within one week the company does not implement the agreement reached last year on pay adjustments for the officers on the ships.

Asdod dock workers are carefully watching how the Government settles the current labour disputes, dockers' secretary **Eli Maman** said yesterday.

As of today the Vulcan Foundries in Haifa, a Koor enterprise, will be strike-bound. The foundries are discontinuing the casting of bathtubs whose production they began 45 years ago, and the 500 workers marked the event by going on strike in all the company's sections. They ignored the Labour Council and the law on labour disputes which requires a fortnight's advance.

The strike broke out on Sunday because the 20 men in the tub casting section fear that if they are transferred to other sections of the plant their pay will shrink. The shop committee men said they had warned the management and the Labour Council well in time of the clash of interests, but attention had been paid because everybody had been preoccupied with the Labour Party convention.

On the bright side, the 17 employees of the Citrus Marketing Board's dispatch office in Haifa Port yesterday unconditionally suspended their sanctions.

Yadin: DMC has no preferences

Prof. Yigael Yadin said last night that his party — the Democratic Movement for Change — has not yet taken a stand regarding the formation of a coalition after the May elections.

He was reacting, in a radio interview, to a report in "The Washington Post" that the DMC was more likely to team up with the Alignment than with the Likud. The story reportedly incensed some members of the DMC, as well as Likud leaders.

"Our major problem right now is to get into the Knesset in a force strong enough to form the next government — or so that no government can be formed without us," Yadin said. He added that his movement was against the establishment — whether government or opposition — and had no preferences at this point.

Police seize IL5m. worth of heroin, five held

Jerusalem Post Reporter

TEL AVIV. — More than **IL5m.** worth of heroin hidden in a tarmac powder can and a cigar box were seized by police in Rosh Pina on Sunday. This was the largest haul of heroin ever seized in this country.

Five Israelis, four men and a woman, have been arrested on suspicion of smuggling the drug into the country from Hong Kong.

Police said they learned two weeks ago that two well-known drug dealers intended to fly to Hong Kong to make a "buy". In the past Israeli dealers have usually made their purchases in Amsterdam or Germany. But in Hong Kong the prices are considerably lower, police said.

According to one police source, half a kilogramme of heroin can be bought there for \$2,000 while this amount of money would buy only 50 grams in Holland.

The two dealers returned on Thursday accompanied by two monkeys they had bought while on their trip to the Far East. The heroin was being smuggled in by two men and a young woman.

Shortly after their arrival, the three smugglers went on to Rosh

Pina. Plainclothesmen trailed them, as well as the two dealers. Police believe that the three went to the town to avoid possible police investigations in the Tel Aviv area.

On Sunday afternoon, in a wadi just outside of Rosh Pina, the detectives found the tarmac powder can and cigar box containing small tubes that usually hold cigars. The tubes and the tarmac powder can contained pure uncut heroin weighing half a kilogramme.

Later in the day the police rounded up the suspects. The two dealers are aged 27 and 32. No exact age was available for the smugglers but they were described as being young.

The three who actually smuggled the heroin into the country may have done so unwittingly, according to a police source. The use of innocent passengers to smuggle drugs, it was pointed out, is a common practice among drug dealers.

The heroin is the largest quantity of that drug ever confiscated in Israel.

In January 1976, the police seized 150 grams of heroin in Tel Aviv's Yeminite Quarter, at that time the largest seizure ever.

Jail hunger strike continues

By **ZVI ARENSTEIN**
Jerusalem Post Reporter

GAZA. About 215 Arab prisoners in the Ashkelon prison yesterday continued the hunger strike they started last Thursday after their representatives were denied permission to explain terms of settling their demands to all 450 Arabs in the prison.

The hunger strikers — all security detainees from Gaza Strip and the West Bank — are asking for, among other things, beds to replace their mattresses, better reading material and increased canteen privileges.

Mayor **Rashid Shawas** of Gaza discussed the situation with Commissioner of Prisons **Haim Levi**, who agreed to see if his budget would allow issuing thicker mattresses, enlarging the prison library and increasing the canteen budget. However, the mayor reported that

the commissioner rejected the demand of the representatives to report this compromise to all Arab prisoners.

A spokesman in the commissioner's office yesterday told The Jerusalem Post that the prison service is aware of crowded conditions in the Ashkelon prison, but claimed that funds to improve these conditions are not available.

About 450 Arab prisoners in the Ashkelon prison staged a 36-day hunger strike, consuming only liquids reinforced with vitamins, before it was settled late in January. The strike also protested prison conditions.

Meanwhile, Arab students at Hebrew University are currently staging a hunger strike in sympathy with the hunger strike by the prisoners. The students were distributing a petition yesterday.



Tat-Aluf Navon new Military Chief Chaplain

Post Military Correspondent

Tat-Aluf Gad Navon has been named Chief Military Chaplain. He will be replacing **Aluf Mordechai Piron**, who has held the post since 1971.

The appointment of Rabbi Navon, who has served as Piron's deputy since 1971, has led to a storm of controversy as to who would be the new Deputy Military Chaplain.

The discussions on the issue have been going on for several months now with both former Chief Chaplain and now Chief Rabbi **Shlomo Goren** as well as the country's religious parties, attempting to exert influence.

The issue of the deputy was still outstanding last night, but the Chief of Staff is expected to make a final decision, in consultation with the Defence Minister, within the next few days.

Navon will be promoted to the rank of **Aluf** when he takes up his position this morning.

Rabbi Piron will remain in the armed forces, and has been offered a post at the National Staff College.

Head of Rabin's election campaign denied c'ttee seat

By **DAVID LANDAU**
Jerusalem Post Reporter

Yoram Perry, the young Labour Party official whom Premier **Yitzhak Rabin** called in from Bishkek to head his election campaign against Defence Minister **Shimon Peres**, has not been granted a seat on the 701-man party central committee and specifically asked to be on the new one.

This was revealed last night by friends of Perry, shocked and disgruntled by his exclusion. Perry was unavailable for comment.

One Rabin supporter told The Jerusalem Post that the Premier had been urged not to treat Perry in this way.

Perry is understood to be at odds with the central figure in the "Lashliuv" circles of young Labourites, which supported Rabin in the race with Peres.

European official visits Knesset

Jerusalem Post Reporter

The flag of the Council of Europe flew from the mast of the Knesset yesterday as an honour guard presented arms in welcoming Dr. **Karl Czernetz**, President of the Council's Parliamentary Assembly.

Dr. Czernetz, who is here as guest of Knesset Speaker **Yisrael Yeshayahu**, met with Likud leader **Menahem Begin** and Mapam faction member **Dov Zakai**, attended a session, and dined with Knesset members. He was also received by President **Ephraim Katzir** and lunched with Supreme Court Justice **Haim Cohn**.

Begin asked Dr. Czernetz to intercede with Soviet authorities on behalf of **Leib Hanech**, who as a "Prisoner of Zion" in Vladimir Prison, is suffering from ill health and whose condition is worsening. Dr. Czernetz promised to work towards alleviating Hanech's suffering.

Robbers snatch IL57,000, miss IL100,000

Jerusalem Post Reporter

BAT YAM. — Police are holding three suspects in connection with an armed robbery yesterday when **IL57,000** was taken from a postal box on Rehov Balfour. However, a quick-thinking clerk managed to hide **IL100,000** from the robbers.

Police said the holdup occurred at 8.45 a.m. when three men entered the bank with drawn pistols and stocking caps hiding their faces. Some 150 pensioners were waiting in the bank to collect their monthly National Insurance cheques when the armed men entered.

"This is a sickup," one of the men shouted. The elderly people began crying and screaming and some passed out, police said.

When a lookout man in the getaway car honked his horn, the three robbers fled. Just as they were entering their car, a policeman in civilian clothes was passing by. Alerted by the shouts from the bank, he drew his pistol and began firing at the car as it sped off. It is believed that he may have hit one of the four robbers, police said.

Agency board meets

Jerusalem Post Reporter

The Jewish Agency Board of Governors opens two days of sessions in Jerusalem this morning with a discussion of the condition of Jewish communities around the world.

The 42 members, half representing the World Zionist Organization, 30 per cent the United Jewish Appeal and 30 per cent other fund-raising bodies, meet three or four times a year. The budget of the Agency will be the main topic for discussion.

Financing of parties: To (or not to) discuss

By **ASHER WALLFISH**
Jerusalem Post Knesset Reporter

A tug-of-war is under way in the Knesset State Control Committee over the controversial issue of party financing. The Alignment is doing its best to stifle all discussion of the issue while the Likud is insisting that the issue be handled like any other issue referred to it from the plenum.

Last week the plenum referred to the committee a motion for the agenda by **Yigal Horowitz** (Likud) in the wake of charges aired by convicted former Kupa Holim head **Asher Yadin** in court alleging that he had raised millions of pounds under the table for the Labour Party under pressure from top Labour leaders. Committee chairman **Yosef Tamir** (Likud) said: "Like any other Knesset committee, we have to call in people who can enlighten us and then submit conclusions. We are not as inflexible and we are not inflicting against anybody. But we are not here to whitewash either, especially on questions of the utmost importance in which the public takes a keen interest. We hope the Alignment will not use its majority on this committee in a manner which will make us lose our mutual trust and dispel the goodwill which prevails here."

The Likud's **Ehud Olmert** caused a flutter when he charged that moshav farmers were being compelled to contribute to Labour Party funds at the present time, without their knowledge and agreement to most cases. Olmert charged that the

farmers' purchasing organization on which the moshav settlers depended, were adding a percentage to the settlers' accounts, as contributions to Labour. He charged that farmers who objected were being subjected to threats. He demanded an investigation.

When Labour member **Yaakov Amir** wanted to know what was wrong in people contributing to parties, Olmert replied that the moshav was being levied at source like any individual. He said he had documents to support his charge.

Horowitz said that Yadin was called in for testimony, as well as **Meir Amit**, the head of Koor duties, which formerly was owned by the ISI, factoring company.

Asher Yadin said in court that his cousin **Aharon Yadin**, now Election Minister, told him to pay money to the Labour Party via ISI.

Horowitz said that heads of all other organizations controlled by Labour should also be invited to the committee — such as **Shimon Mordechai Ben-Porat**, **Amkior**, **Moshe Carmel**, and **Joseph**, all of Labour, said probe should be left entirely to State Comptroller. They asked postponement of the committee session to give them time among themselves whether would vote to prevent the committee handling Horowitz's motion, agree that it carry on. Tamir agreed to the postponement.

Break-in at Herut party HQ

Jerusalem Post Reporter

The Jerusalem police spokesman said yesterday that the police are treating a forcible entry into the Capital's Herut party offices as an ordinary burglary. But the secretary of the local Herut branch said the possibility of political abnegations could not be ruled out.

The party's offices were broken into over the weekend. Nothing of value was taken. But the files were forced open, according to **Hanan Ben-Yehuda**, branch secretary, and card catalogues were disturbed.

Ben-Yehuda pointed out that list of party members was of political importance, both competing parties might want to contact Herut members and some members did not want to be in the list.

Asked if he thought any political group would take the risk of being into a party office after Watergate scandal in the U.S., **Yehuda** said he could not discuss such a possibility.

The State Cup for soccer, this in the possession of **Jerusalem Betar**, was left intact at the time

Panthers may go in three directions

Jerusalem Post Political Reporter

TEL AVIV. — The Black Panther movement is on the verge of splitting in three directions.

Two leaders and their supporters are expected to decide today whether to join a "peace front" with **Rakah** (New Communist Party).

Rakah has been trying to form such a front with Jewish groups and the envisioned alignment would be the first step towards implementing the plan.

But there was no agreement on which seat the Black Panther would get. **Rakah's** spokesman said that if the Black Panther is not elected, a Communist Knesset member may

step down to make place. A second Black Panther spokesman headed by **Sa'adia Marciano** (the movement's five delegates to the Histadrut Executive) has been negotiating with **Moked** on forming a joint front.

The third group, headed by **Shalom Cohen** and supported by four other members in the Histadrut Executive, had been ended the formation of the "workers' Panthers front" between **Cohen**, **Yehoshua Peretz**, a former leader of the Ashdod port workers.

Earlier this year, the leader of another Black Panther offshoot, **Yoram Thier**, joined the Democratic Movement for Change.

Rabbinit Goren seeks Knesset seat

By **JUDY SIEGEL**
Jerusalem Post Reporter

Rabbinit Triva Goren, wife of the Ashkenazi Chief Rabbi, is one of six women competing for 10th place on the NRP's list of candidates to the Ninth Knesset. The Jerusalem Post learned yesterday.

The National Religious Women's Organization, the women's arm of the NRP, had been working for the formation of the "workers' Panthers front" between **Cohen**, **Yehoshua Peretz**, a former leader of the Ashdod port workers.

Earlier this year, the leader of another Black Panther offshoot, **Yoram Thier**, joined the Democratic Movement for Change.

KNESSET BRIEFS

INVALIDS would continue to receive the same rate of disability pension on reaching the age of 65 years (for men) and 60 (for women) under an amendment presented yesterday by **Shoshana Arbel** (Alignment) and would not have to make do with less, as the situation is now merely because the old age pension is lower than the disability pension.

WAGE-EARNERS ELECTED as chairman or deputy chairman of local authorities would qualify either for severance pay or for unpaid leave, under a private members bill by **Meche Shai** (Alignment) approved in committee yesterday ready to be passed into law this week.

Nimni out of World Cup

Jerusalem Post Sports Reporter

TEL AVIV. — **Meir Nimni**, 26-year-old national team defender, broke a leg in the second half of the game against North Korea on Sunday and will not play soccer for a year.

National team coach **David Schweitzer** will this week name a replacement for the veteran Tel Aviv Maccabi defender for the game against Japan next week.

In the World Cup qualifying games played on Sunday, Singapore beat Thailand 2-0 in Group One and Egypt beat Kenya 1-0 in Cairo.

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Jerusalem's 'Roman Cardo' isn't Roman

By ABRAHAM RABINOVICH
Jerusalem Post Reporter

The "Roman Cardo," whose discovery in the Jewish Quarter last year was one of the most sensational archaeological finds in the city's history, isn't Roman after all.

When Prof. Nahman Avigad, in charge of the archaeological expedition in the quarter, revealed yesterday that the cardo — an important, 22.5-metre-wide street lined on both sides by columns — dates from the Byzantine period (Fourth-Sixth Centuries) and not the Roman period (135-325 C.E.), Prof. Avigad had never said it was called in Roman times; but when news of his find was leaked by unauthorized sources last May, it was presumed by all — including other archaeologists who had visited the site — that the cardo was a remnant of Aelia Capitolina, the Roman city built by the Romans on the ruins of the Jewish Temple.

Prof. Avigad said that the Romans were long presumed to have built their city in typical Roman style — with a main east-west street and a main north-south street (the cardo). But Prof. Avigad's find raises the question of whether the Romans did indeed build a city in the style of Aelia Capitolina.

There is no archaeological evidence of a cardo, said Avigad in an interview yesterday following publication of his findings. The Byzantine street is built on bedrock — pre-Roman remains, ruling out the possibility of the cardo being found beneath it.



Section of 22.5-metre wide Byzantine street, previously believed to be the Roman Cardo, in the Jewish Quarter of Jerusalem. (Avigad Gilboa)

remains are more fragmentary than similar ones found in the centre of the Jewish Quarter.

Coins from the period of the Bar-Kochba revolt found beneath collapsed walls date the ruins to the destruction of Jerusalem by the Romans in 70 C.E.

Prof. Avigad also found a system of large underground vaults which apparently served as a substructure for the Nes, the large Byzantine church built by Emperor Justinian in the Sixth Century. The vaults extend over a 25-square-metre area, and some of the 10-metre-high vaulted halls were found intact.

"In their design, proportions and stone-and-brick construction," says Avigad, "these vaults are unique among architectural monuments in Israel."

The seven-metre-thick Israelite city wall found by Avigad in 1970 — one of his most important discoveries — was exposed for another 15 metres to the west last year. The original find established for the first time that the walled city of Jerusalem extended to the western hill (today's Jewish and Armenian quarters) as early as the First Temple period.

Avigad last year also found another section of the "First Wall" parallel to David Street, the Hasmonian structure described by Josephus which played a role in the defence of the city during the Roman attack.

Prof. Avigad last year uncovered a Crusader building with thick walls and massive columns whose function is not yet clear. Remains of other Crusader buildings are incorporated into existing shops and other structures elsewhere in the quarter, but this is the first sub-Crusader building so far uncovered there.

The Jewish Quarter excavations are being carried out under the auspices of the Hebrew University Institute of Archaeology, the Israel Exploration Society and the Department of Antiquities. Also assisting are the Company for the Development of the Jewish Quarter, the Jerusalem Foundation, the American-Israel Cultural Foundation and the Ambassador International Cultural Foundation.

Herut party

Ben-Yehuda said the Herut party is not a political party but a movement. He said the party is not a political party but a movement. He said the party is not a political party but a movement.

style, as well as ceramics and coins, date the street to the Byzantine period, said Avigad.

The street, obviously a central boulevard, is depicted in the famous Sixth-Century mosaic map found at Madaba in Trans-Jordan last century.

In addition to the "cardo" last season's main effort concentrated on the open area adjacent to the southern city wall. Prof. Avigad found additional remains of the luxurious homes which had occupied the Upper City of Herodian Jerusalem. The buildings were built of hewn stone and their walls were plastered in colour. The

Class rally today by Gush Emunim

By JOSHUA BRILLIANT
Jerusalem Post Political Reporter

A second day of the Gush Emunim rally, headed by Shimon Peres, will be held today. The rally is expected to attract 20,000 people to attend this negotiating session's rally at the Antipatrius joint front.

The third day of Jewish settlement throughout Shalom Cheshma and Samaria.

Four other rallies will be followed by a Executive, lunch with torchlights towards an formation of adjoined police station in Mes'ha Panthers from the movement tried to settle Yehoshua Peres.

The Ashdod police said Gush Emunim has a Earlier this to hold the rally at the an- another Black's fortress. But the police had no for. This, judgement of the planned night-time Movement in the region.



TAT-GUNDAR (Deputy-Commissioner) Hemda Panigal receives her new insignia from Minister of Police Shlomo Hillel (right) and Gush Emunim leader, Zvi Eyalon, (left). Panigal, Head of the Inmate Division, was one of four administrative heads in the Prisons Service who were yesterday elevated from the rank of Gundar-Mishne to Tat-Gundar. The others are Zvi Givati, head of Administration of Organization and Security; Aharon Turgeman, assistant for Planning and Research; and Elyahu Cohen, head of Administration of Stores, Property and Finance. (Rahamim Yisraeli)

ET BRIEF

CIVILIAN...
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Tel Aviv Comptroller says officials threatened Absenteeism reports 'falsified'

By SARAH HONIG
Jerusalem Post Reporter

ed that a third of the sanitation staff is sometimes absent, and one such public complaint sparked a strike several years ago.

The comptroller also noted that the sanitation employees take twice the sick leave taken by industrial workers — 18.8 work days a year compared to 8.4 days.

The comptroller blamed sanitation officials in large part for the lax discipline in the department. He found, for instance, that starting and finishing times are usually not recorded — which, apart from payment problems, also makes it difficult for officials to establish and adjust work norms. The comptroller recommended the installation of time clocks.

The Comptroller also noted that absenteeism records had many times been "corrected" by officials, after they were threatened by employees. He suggested as a remedy that any correction in the absentee record require the approval of a supervisor.

He warned that continued absenteeism could result in manpower shortages, the hiring of more employees, and damage to work discipline and morale.

In response to the Comptroller's criticism, Mayor Shlomo Lahat yesterday accepted the recommendation about a supervisor approving changes in the record, and promised to look into the feasibility of installing time clocks for the sanitation staff.

The Comptroller also criticized the lax supervision of municipal parking lots. In some lots, he said, there is a brick car wash business, while in others self-appointed supervisors direct cars to parking spaces, sell parking cards at inflated prices or offer to change cards every hour for the drivers.

On this point, Mayor Lahat noted that the City Council had recently passed a bylaw outlawing "private enterprise" in parking lots.

The report took note of "the decreasing number of parking tickets handed out during the period under review." According to the Comptroller, only 50 per cent of drivers bothered to use parking cards or punch them out properly in the morning, but only eight per cent were fined.

Parking cards were introduced several years ago to replace meters which were often a target of vandals and petty thieves. The unused meters have been stored in city warehouses since 1973. The Comptroller reported. The city has tried to sell them, but could find no buyers.

TEL AVIV PROMISES TO GIVE ITS SLUM SCHOOLS A BOOST

By SARAH HONIG
Jerusalem Post Reporter

TEL AVIV. — When the 1977-78 school year opens in the fall, this city's slum schools will be the best equipped in the country — at least in the field of technological advances — Deputy Mayor Haim Basok said yesterday.

But central computer hook-ups and closed-circuit television — which the deputy mayor admits are easier to get than good teachers — will be supplemented by more human programs, including joint activities for parents and children after school hours.

Basok, who holds the municipal education portfolio, said three high schools in depressed areas will be hooked up to a central computer which will record the details of each pupil's record — academic, social and psychological. The idea is to afford the pupil's teachers a detailed picture of his progress over a prolonged period.

Two high schools will also be equipped with closed-circuit TV, to supplement instructional television programmes. This system will make it possible for teachers to screen programmes in advance and to rerun them at convenient times.

The computer and TV systems will cost IL7m.

Since it is believed that cultural deprivation begins at home, with poorly educated parents, the city plans to turn slum schools into community centres in the afternoon. These centres will run joint-activity programmes geared to helping parents help their children.

Ten schools in depressed areas will institute a long school day, adding three more hours of in-school activities. And 25 after-school clubs will be opened for the children of working parents.

Basok said it was not easy to attract "the best" teachers to work with disadvantaged school populations, but he said the city was considering a plan to bus those teachers to work free of charge if they agreed to go.

According to city statistics, 22 per cent of Tel Aviv's 85,000 pupils live north of the Yarkon River, and another 22 per cent live in North Tel Aviv. Fifty-one per cent of the school population lives in Jaffa and South Tel Aviv — leaving only 5 per cent in the ageing central city.

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Whole NY yeshiva to study in J'lem

Jerusalem Post Reporter

The entire student body of Yeshivat Hafez Hayim in the New York borough of Queens will come to study in Israel in September.

The 250 yeshiva boys will be accompanied by their teachers and study at a sister yeshiva in Jerusalem.

This was disclosed yesterday by Mordechai Bar-On, head of the World Zionist Organization's Youth and Hehalutz Department. Three weeks ago Bar-On began a ten-month assignment to the U.S. to increase volunteers and ally by helping American Jewish organizations set up special desks. He returned to Jerusalem recently for the Jewish Board of Governors meetings.

IL50m. plan to train army drop-outs

By MARSHA POMERANTZ
Jerusalem Post Reporter

The army and the Labour Ministry are joining forces to train 1,840 "marginal youths" who would otherwise be unsuitable for military service.

The programme, which will include 240 women and cost nearly IL50m. for the first year, was adopted yesterday by the Ministerial Committee on Social Betterment. A subcommittee headed by Baruch Levy, the Prime Minister's adviser on disadvantaged youth, drew up the proposal in an effort to improve previous programmes for absorbing potential drop-outs.

The following details appear in the proposal:

- Some 800 adults will receive technical training in existing programmes sponsored by the Labour Ministry. About 300 will be identified through pre-draft testing, and 500 will enter the programme because they had difficulty in adapting to the army after draft. The main budget will come from the ministry, while the army will cover transportation, clothing, and psychological counselling.
- Another 500 will be trained for technical work in a centre set up by the army. After preliminary army training, they will alternate participation in the "study-workshop" with army service in their regular units.
- The number of pre-army youths in work groups will be increased from 600 to 1,000, and their technical competences improved in civilian or army training programmes when they "graduate" from the work groups. Funds for the expansion will come from the Labour Ministry.
- About 150 youths will study at pre-army boarding trade schools. To save money in expanding the programme, pre-army training will be set up at existing trade schools.
- The number of industrial schools run in cooperation with the army will be doubled to six in 1977.
- The 240 young women in the programme will study metalwork, electronics, instrumentation, and auto mechanics in 12 courses.

Of the total budget for 1977 and the beginning of 1978, the army will provide over a third, and the Ministry just over a tenth. The rest — some IL28m. — is described in the proposal as "lacking."

The announcement of Levy's committee a month ago coincided with the publication of a report by the Chief of Staff and the head of the army manpower division which said that about one out of 10 young men of draft age is found unsuitable for regular army service. About half of them were previously drafted into special programmes.

According to a report of the Prime Minister's Committee on the status of women, some 24 per cent of young girls are rejected as "unsuitable" for army service when they reach draft age.

EILAT 28 AND SUNNY

By SHEILA MELTZER
Jerusalem Post Reporter

EILAT. — With full hotels and temperatures in the 30s, Eilat marks its 28th birthday today. This year's modest celebrations centre around education and culture: Mayor Gad Katz laid the foundation stone of the town's second high school yesterday afternoon and then opened two art exhibitions — one featuring the work of 18 local artists and the other, drawings and paintings by Eilat's schoolchildren.

This morning at 10, the traditional "link-flag" raising ceremony will be held at the site of the Umm Raabrah on the northern seashore. This was the name of the military police station, formerly British and later manned by Jordanian soldiers, which was composed of two mud

only full, but up to an hour and a half early.

Concurrent with Eilat's celebrations, an international diving symposium on human and animal behaviour in the sea attended by some 200 divers from all over the world opened last night. The symposium, which will last until Friday, was organized by Dr. Hans Frikke, author of "The Coral Seas," of the Max Planck Institute in Seewiesen, West Germany. Dr. Yossi Loya of Tel Aviv University and Dr. Joe McInnes of Canada. Dr. McInnes, who was elected a Diver of the Year at the International Diving Conference in England last October, was the first man ever to dive under the icecap of the North Pole.

Gazans held after fight on T.A. bus

TEL AVIV. — Three men from Gaza have been arrested on suspicion of beating up a bus passenger who reportedly had asked them to stop smoking.

The suspects, who were released on IL5,000 bail each, said it was they who had been attacked by the other passengers, including the man who was injured.

The three — Mahmoud Nahal, Hagi Ohad and Mukdad Hamoun — were arrested after a fight broke out on a No. 18 bus in Tel Aviv. Another passenger, Yitzhak Delan, was hospitalized because of injuries sustained in the fight.

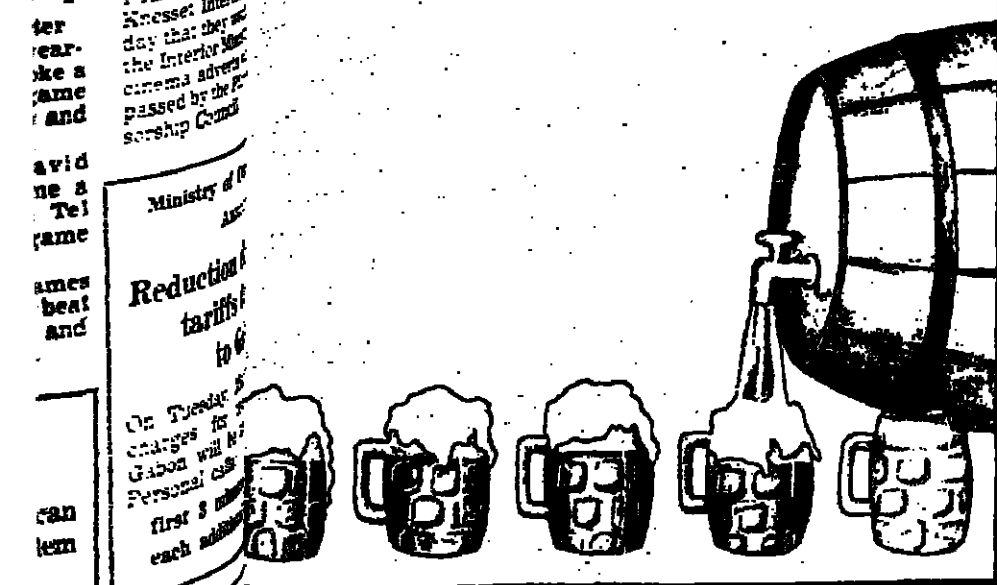
Police said the fight broke out after other passengers asked the three Gazans to put out their cigarettes. (Itim)

Teenagers held for shooting watchman

HAIFA. — Two teenagers were remanded in 10 days custody yesterday on suspicion of causing grievous bodily injury to a watchman who tried to prevent them from breaking into a liquor store in Kiryat Ata.

Police told the Magistrate's Court yesterday that Yehuda Eilon, 19, and Avraham Amir, 18, tried to break into the store on February 26 and were surprised by the watchman of a nearby factory. The two suspects allegedly shot and seriously wounded the guard. (Itim)

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Amin said summoning UK residents as well

NAIROBI. — Ugandan president Idi Amin is apparently summoning Britons as well to the meeting he has set for tomorrow at Entebbe airport with 240 Americans he has ordered trapped inside Uganda, according to reports reaching Nairobi yesterday.

British diplomats in both Kampala, the Ugandan capital, and Nairobi said they were checking reports that members of the 200-strong British community are being contacted by telephone and ordered to attend the meeting.

Britain severed relations with Amin's regime in August 1976, but two British diplomats still man a British-interest section at the French embassy in Kampala.

In Washington, the State Department

said yesterday there had been no reply to Amin's Sunday invitation for the U.S. to send official representatives to the meeting. A State Department official added that he didn't know if the U.S. would reply to the offer.

President Carter had said earlier that the government was closely watching the situation in Uganda, "trying not to upset President Amin, and trying to take advantage of his good wishes that he has expressed."

Amin on Sunday postponed the mysterious meeting with the Americans from yesterday to tomorrow and warned Americans not to stage a rescue raid. He had ordered the meeting on Friday, and said no U.S. nationals would be allowed to leave Uganda until after it.

The meeting was called two days after Amin claimed the U.S., Britain and Israel were involved in a plot to overthrow him.

Yesterday Amin reportedly assured a meeting of whites at Entebbe he had "nothing against them," partially easing the suspense over tomorrow's showdown meeting.

Radio Uganda said Amin met informally with a group of whites, mostly Americans, at the airport and told them the world media had "misunderstood" his orders summoning all Americans to a meeting. "Ugandans are your brothers and sisters... enjoy yourselves," Amin told his guests, the radio said. The white party was composed mostly of American employees at Uganda Airlines. Amin said he proposed to hand out "honour medals" at tomorrow's meeting.

The radio said Amin was in a jovial mood and had explained he ordered that no Americans could leave only so he could "see them all jointly."

(AP, UPI)

Amin's prison chiefs stop him now

HARTFORD, Conn. — Idi Amin's former superintendent of prisons, Andrew Kayira, yesterday called for human rights organizations throughout the world to move against the Ugandan ruler "before it's too late and more people die."

Kayira, currently an assistant professor of criminal justice at the University of New Haven, said that Amin eliminates problems rather than solves them.

"Killing is his solution to every problem. To him, you are either his friend or his enemy. He deals in black and white. When you are his enemy, you have to die," he said.

Kayira predicted that when the Americans in Uganda meet with Amin tomorrow he will use them "as a bargaining tool" to silence criticism from President Carter.

British seize £5m. worth of heroin under canned prawns

LONDON. — Customs officers seized about 12 tonnes of heroin worth an estimated £5m. aboard a Malaysian freighter in Cardiff at the weekend, customs authorities reported yesterday.

The seizure, believed to be the biggest single haul in Britain, was part of a major police campaign to prevent Chinese secret societies known as Triads from moving into Britain to organize large-scale dope smuggling.

The seizure totals half the amount of heroin seized by police and customs in Britain last year. Police estimate that a staggering five tons of the dope was smuggled into Europe last year, mainly through Amsterdam and Rotterdam.

"This is a major breakthrough," a senior Scotland Yard officer said.

Officers said the heroin seized on Sunday — believed to be "brown sugar" from the "Golden Triangle" wilderness of the Thailand, Laos and Burma border junction — was hidden in plastic bags under thousands of tons of canned prawns.

Police detained two Chinese crewmen aboard the ship sailing from Bangkok to Rotterdam. Drug squad detectives believe the dope was destined for the Dutch port.

The Triads operate a massive European heroin racket from Amsterdam. Police intelligence operatives have said the Oriental mobs are moving into London and also plan to muscle into the lucrative U.S. market following major police successes in smashing the "French connection" and pipelines from Latin America.

Customs investigator Tony Hall reported that Sunday's seizure did not come from an underworld tip-off. "It was good search work and a good break," he explained.

(AP)

Landslide kills 16

BUENOS AIRES. — An avalanche of mud, rocks and water swept over two small villages in Jujuy province and killed 16 persons, including 10 children, reports said yesterday.



British Queen Elizabeth, wearing a Maori cloak of brown kiwi feathers, speaks to Maoris in Gisborne, New Zealand, when she and her husband, the Duke of Edinburgh, visited the Polynesian Festival yesterday. She is on a Silver Jubilee tour of New Zealand and Australia. (AP radiophoto)

Aussie MPs say Indonesia slew 100,000 in East Timor

CANBERRA, Australia. — Six Labour Party members of the Australian parliament charged yesterday that the Indonesian armed forces have killed up to 100,000 people in East Timor.

The opposition party's deputy leader, Thomas Uren, said he and five colleagues sent a report on the situation in the former Portuguese territory to the International Relations Committee of the U.S. House of Representatives and asked it to look into the charges.

Indonesia last July annexed the eastern half of Timor island, which is in the Indonesian Archipelago, after a civil war in which Indonesian forces helped a pro-Indonesian faction defeat a faction favouring independence. The western half of the island was already Indonesian.

Uren made public a letter to U.S. Representative Donald Fraser and the House Committee, which said his

group last November 17 received a confidential report from Indonesian Christian aid sources that "documented widespread killings and destruction by the Indonesian armed forces."

The Labourites enclosed a copy of a report by James Dunn, the former Australian consul-general in East Timor, who recently interviewed East Timorese refugees now living in Portugal.

"It is clear from the reports that up to 100,000 people may have died in East Timor," the report said. "It must be remembered that the total population of East Timor prior to the invasion was 600,000. This would make it one of the worst atrocities of our times."

The UN General Assembly at its session last fall rejected an Indonesian report that East Timor had been integrated into Indonesia and called on Indonesia to withdraw its forces from the territory. (AP)

Cairo blames Gaddafi for bombing

CAIRO. — Egypt has accused the Libyan regime of strongman Muammar Gaddafi of embarking on a "new criminal scheme" by exploding a timebomb in Alexandria and wounding nine persons.

The bomb went off late Saturday in a small hotel in downtown Alexandria, Egypt's second largest city, causing material damage as well as the nine casualties.

Within 10 hours, police arrested a suspect who was planning to cross Egypt's western border into Libya, and accused him of responsibility for the blast.

"The Libyan intelligence service has embarked on a new criminal scheme, without any regard to innocent lives," a government statement said.

The suspect, an Egyptian named Nagi Abdou Suleiman, confessed that he planted the bomb at the instructions of three Libyan intelligence officers, the statement said.

He admitted that he had been in Libya since last April and was trained there in subversive activity, the statement added.

Soviet arms spending double that of West

LONDON. — The Soviet Union is spending 11 to 12 per cent of its national income (gross national product) on military programmes compared with 6.4 per cent in the U.S. and 5.5 per cent in Britain, the British government said yesterday in its annual official white paper on its defence plans.

Soviet forces in Europe are being bolstered by massive reinforcements of tanks, artillery and planes. And Russia's northern fleet — the main threat to the North Atlantic Treaty Organization (Nato) in the Atlantic — has been drastically reinforced, the white paper said.

"The military power of the Warsaw Pact continues to grow both in quantity and quality," the white paper said. "There is no evidence to show that Nato's policy of deterrence is failing and that the Warsaw Pact is contemplating aggression against Nato. But political intentions can change rapidly, whereas military capability can only be altered over a long period."

Despite £200m. in economy cuts in defence spending this year, the white paper said, Britain still plans to spend £6.3b. on defence in 1977-78 or about 5.5 per cent of her gross national product.

The white paper said that, regardless of economy demands, Britain will not slash her crack

55,000-man Rhine army and air force in West Germany.

The white paper said the Soviet Union currently has 14 armoured and 13 motorized rifle divisions stationed in East Germany, Poland and Czechoslovakia. It said this is the same number as at the time of the invasion of Czechoslovakia in 1968.

"But their real combat strength," the white paper said, including tanks, guns, armoured personnel carriers and manpower, has increased by the equivalent of six complete pre-1968 divisions.

"The combat strength of many of the remaining 134 tank and motor rifle divisions in the Soviet army is being increased in a similar manner," the white paper said.

The white paper said the Soviet air force also is engaged in "a comprehensive programme of re-equipment," including addition of three new types of swing-wing tactical planes capable of delivering both conventional and nuclear weapons.

Of the Soviet northern fleet, the white paper said, "not only has there been an increase in offensive capability, resulting from the introduction of nuclear-powered submarines and missile armed warships and aircraft, but also, because older vessels have been retained, overall numbers have increased."

Norway won't let Raphael stay

OSLO. — The Norwegian State Agency for Foreigners has upheld police orders to expel a former Israeli intelligence agent, Mrs. Sylvia Raphael Schjoedt, 38. She was ordered deported a month ago.

The authorities said yesterday that permitting her to stay with her Norwegian husband and defence lawyer, Annarus Schjoedt, would constitute "grave risks and broad consequences."

In 1974 she was sentenced to five-and-a-half years imprisonment for participating in the July 1973 murder of alleged Arab terrorist Ahmed Bouchiki, a Moroccan who worked

as a waiter at the holiday resort of Lillehammer.

Mrs. Schjoedt, who is a South African and Israeli citizen, was first expelled when her sentence was commuted after two years and nine months. But she returned to Norway in December after her marriage to Schjoedt.

She applied for permission to stay with her husband but the local police officer at Lillehammer turned down the request and decided to expel her in view of the seriousness of her crime.

It is now up to the government to decide whether she must leave Norway. (UPI, AP)

No U.S. loan till NY settles debts

NEW YORK. — The U.S. Treasury has warned New York City that it must reach agreement on a plan to repay \$1b. in short-term loans before it can have a federal emergency loan.

City officials say that without the loan the city will be forced into bankruptcy early next month. Treasury Secretary Michael Blumenthal told Mayor Abraham Beame that the city's request for a \$250m. loan could not be approved until the city and its major creditors — the major New York banks and municipal unions — had agreed on a repayment package. The city, banks and unions have been meeting since last November when the state's highest court ruled unconstitutional

a moratorium on repayment of short-term loans as part of the city's broad scheme for remaining solvent. One labour problem was solved on Sunday when striking handymen and cleaners at city schools ratified a new contract. The three-day strike had put the city's 1.1 million public school children on half-day sessions. (Reuter, AP)

Czech defector 'biggest catch since Penkovsky'

By ANDREW WILSON
LONDON. — Western intelligence services think the defection last week of Svetoslav Simko, a 34-year-old Czechoslovak intelligence agent in Bonn, promises to be one of their biggest coups since the defection of Soviet military intelligence colonel Oleg Penkovsky, in the late 1950s.

For Britain's MI-6, which also engineered Penkovsky's defection, the triumph is particularly welcome. The only difference is that while Simko escaped, Penkovsky was caught and executed.

The official version of the Simko story is that Simko asked for political asylum on the weekend of February 18, after defecting in Bonn, where his cover was that of a journalist working for the Czechoslovak news agency Ceteke.

But the circumstances, including the fact that he is now known to have made regular visits to the British Council (cultural) office in Bonn, suggest he may have been working as a double agent for a considerable period — perhaps most of the six years that he served in the West German capital.

A publicised defection, though bringing considerable prestige (and fund-raising edge) to the receiving intelligence service, is nevertheless usually a sign that a double agent has come to the end of his useful life, often through betrayal.

The official euphoria surrounding Simko suggests that he gave MI-6 not only a long list of names of Eastern

bloc agents operating in Germany but also intimate knowledge of operations over a long period. He said, for example, to have supplied the West with information about arms caches and hidden radio transmitters in Germany, which were supposed to be used by pro-Soviet guerrillas in the event of war.

One of Simko's tasks while working in Ceteke was to act as a "spotter", recruiting information from the Czechoslovak military intelligence service. But Simko, a naturalist, was a lukewarm spy, and seems to have been motivated to enter the Czechoslovak intelligence service mainly by a desire to be posted abroad with a view to a better life.

Simko's defection seems certain to cause a large number of Communist bloc agents to be recalled, expelled or otherwise put out of business. West Germany — among them 17 of the 27 diplomats in the Czechoslovak embassy.

West Germany is believed to have up to 10,000 Communist agents of one kind or another, of whom, on average, about three dozen appear in German courts. Visiting NATO signals headquarters in Germany are sometimes invited to listen to "bleeps" recorded from shortwave radio transmissions in East Germany and Czechoslovakia — said to be messages to the news compressed into the equivalent of a microdot on film.

There is a strong possibility that Simko's defection will lead to a major shake-up in the West German intelligence service, which has been accused of being too slow to react to the defection of Penkovsky.

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